

News

School Nurse and School Health Services

Iowa Department of Education

May 2011

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National Nurses Week-American Nurses Association (ANA)

<http://www.nursingworld.org/FunctionalMenuCategories/MediaResources/NationalNursesWeek.aspx>

School Nurse Day

Congratulations on School Nurse Day, Wednesday, May 11 and completing a successful 2010-2011 school year. Special thanks to those leaving school nursing. Also, Congratulations to: School Nurses honored as Great Iowa Nurses May 1, 2011 for their contributions to the profession of nursing - Melanie Gellhaus, Bettendorf CSD and Kathleen Osterman, Sibley-Ocheyedan CSD. The list of 2011 100 Great Iowa Nurses at <http://www.greatnurses.org> and Iowa School Nurse Organization - School Nurse of the Year Laura Wheeler, Cedar Rapids and School Nurse Administrator of the Year Susie Poulton, Iowa City. National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6, also known as **National Nurses Day**, through May 12, the birthday of **Florence Nightingale**, the founder of modern nursing.

Iowa School Nurse 2010-2011 Data

District data submitted to the Department of Education for the 2010-2011 school year indicates there were 568 full time equivalent (FTE) Iowa School Nurses. Of the 568 FTE school nurses, 274 had a School Nurse SPR and 294 did not have a School Nurse SPR. The average daily membership (ADM) of students was 465,569, providing a statewide ratio of one nurse for 820 students. The data does NOT include nurses contracted outside the district to provide school nurse and school health services.

Iowa School Nurse Back to School 2011-2012-Connect Pro Meeting

A School Nurse information session including 2011-2012 updates will be presented Wednesday, August 10, 10:00-11:30 am. To join the meeting from your computer go to <http://iowaec.na4.acrobat.com/r85586632/>

If you have never attended a Connect Pro meeting from your computer before: Test your connection:

http://iowaec.na4.acrobat.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm Get a quick overview:

http://www.adobe.com/go/connectpro_overview Nursing Continuing Education is not available.

Brain Injury Policies-The Protection of Students from Concussions and other Brain Injuries, Iowa Code, 280.13C

Brain injury policies, passed the Iowa legislature and was signed by the Governor on April 7, 2011. The law states:

'1. a. The Iowa high school athletic association and the Iowa girls high school athletic union shall work together to distribute the guidelines of the centers for disease control and prevention of the United States department of health and human services and other pertinent information to inform and educate coaches, students, and the parents and guardians of students of the risks, signs, symptoms, and behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain injury, including the danger of continuing to participate in extracurricular interscholastic activities after suffering a concussion or brain injury and their responsibility to report such signs, symptoms, and behaviors if they occur.

b. Annually, each school district and nonpublic school shall provide to the parent or guardian of each student a concussion and brain injury information sheet, as provided by the Iowa high school athletic association and the Iowa girls high school athletic union. The

student and the student's parent or guardian shall sign and return the concussion and brain injury information sheet to the student's school prior to the student's participation in any extracurricular interscholastic activity for grades seven through twelve.

2. If a student's coach or contest official observes signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain injury in an extracurricular interscholastic activity, the student shall be immediately removed from participation.

a. A student who has been removed from participation shall not recommence such participation until the student has been evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and other brain injuries and the student has received written clearance to return to participation from the health care provider.

b. For the purposes of this section, a "licensed health care provider" means a physician, physician assistant, chiropractor, advanced registered nurse practitioner, nurse, physical therapist, or athletic trainer licensed by a board designated under section 147.13.

c. For the purposes of this section, an "extracurricular interscholastic activity" means any extracurricular interscholastic activity, contest, or practice, including sports, dance, or cheerleading.'

SF 367: <http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&menu=false&hbill=SF367>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Brain Injury <http://www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury/index.html>

Please watch for guidelines from the Iowa high school athletic association and the Iowa girls high school athletic union.

Allergies

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Management Act. As part of the food safety act (FAAMA), the U.S. Congress passed and the President signed into law, January 2011, requiring the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and make available to schools a voluntary policy to manage the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools and provide for school-based food allergy management incentive grants to support implementation of food allergy management guidelines in public schools. School resources to use until the new resources are developed and available anticipated early 2011 fall are available on the DE School Nurse web page http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1729&Itemid=2524 Also available is a video for staff education <http://www.foodallergy.org/section/video-gallery>

Recommendation for use in Iowa schools-Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) <http://www.foodallergy.org> includes tools for school professionals and allergy action plan. FAAN's *School Food Allergy Program* is a comprehensive, multimedia program that includes a video, poster, and binder filled with more than 100 pages of information and standardized forms. Elementary, middle, and high schools across the country have used this resource to keep their students with food allergies safe. Price \$80.00, Product ID; SCHL (comes with VHS) and SCHLDVD (comes with DVD) <https://www.foodallergy.org/members/msascart-ProductInfo?productcd=SFAP>

An individualized student health plan and school plan is required to provide a student with an allergy safe and healthy school environment. A school team identifies needs and may provide an individualized health plan, emergency plan, allergy action plan, and 504 plan as appropriate. Consider the Peanut Allergy Institute recommendation, *'Concern over peanuts in public places has led to some schools calling for peanut bans. However, bans, which can never be fully enforced, may lead to a false sense of security and put the child at greater risk. There is no evidence supporting the effectiveness of this practice. A more effective solution is to educate students, schools, and foodservice professionals and set up a food allergy management plan. When it comes to school peanut bans, FAAN does not advocate them. They recommend 'parents, doctors and school officials work together to develop a plan that best fits their situation.'* Peanut Allergy White Paper http://www.peanut-institute.org/resources/downloads/peanut_allergy_whitepaper.pdf

The Future-of-Nursing Leading Change, Advancing-Health

The Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (IOM) released this consensus report October 2010. The report states, *'With more than 3 million members, the nursing profession is the largest segment of the nation's health care workforce. Working on the front lines of patient care, nurses can play a vital role in helping realize the objectives set forth in the 2010 Affordable Care Act, legislation that represents the broadest health care overhaul since the 1965 creation of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. A number of barriers prevent nurses from being able to respond effectively to rapidly changing health care settings and an evolving health care system. These barriers need to be overcome to ensure that nurses are well-positioned to lead change and advance health.'*

Four key messages in the report include:

- 1) Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
- 2) Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.
- 3) Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health care professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States.
- 4) Effective workforce planning and policy making require better data collection and an improved information infrastructure.

The report concludes the United States has the opportunity to transform its health care system, and nurses can and should play a fundamental role in this transformation. Access the full report at

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health.aspx>

Delegation

The Iowa Board of Nursing Newsletter May, June, July 2011 page 1 contains an article excerpts from "They Are Working Under My License" by DL Jones, from the January 2007, Arkansas Board of Nursing Newsletter-UPDATE

<http://www.arsbn.arkansas.gov/publications/Documents/jan-2007.pdf> The article states the Board of Nursing receives inquiries about someone, 'working under my license.' The article states a professional practice license is a state issued license to individuals meeting the education and licensing requirements under the state nursing practice act. The licensing requirements are passed by the state legislature and define the scope of professional practice. Practice acts allowing delegation describe delegation of the right task, to the

right unlicensed person, for the right patient, under the right circumstances, using the right communication, and the right supervision. The nurse is responsible and accountable for ensuring appropriate delegation. Unlicensed persons are responsible and accountable for competent performance of the activities delegated to them. When the nurse has delegated appropriately the unlicensed person is responsible for their own actions and mistakes. Several examples are provided.

The Iowa Nurse Practice Act allows the registered nurse to delegate activities and functions to a competent unlicensed person:

‘655 Iowa Administrative Code 6.2(152) Minimum standards of nursing practice for registered nurses.

655 Iowa Administrative Code 6.2(5) The registered nurse shall recognize and understand the legal implications of accountability.

Excerpts from Accountability includes but need not be limited to the following excerpts:

b. Assigning and supervising persons performing those activities and functions which do not require the knowledge and skill level currently ascribed to the registered nurse.

c. Using professional judgment in assigning and delegating activities and functions to unlicensed assistive personnel. Activities and functions which are beyond the scope of practice of the licensed practical nurse may not be delegated to unlicensed assistive personnel.’

The article closes by stating, “When all workers work within their scope of practice, no one has a need to ‘work on your nursing license.’”

Calendar

May 11

School Nurse Day

June 7

Mental Health Strategies for Schools, to register send name, address, phone, and RN # to Toni.merfeld@iowa.gov

June 8-9

Iowa Immunization Conference, Des Moines

June 29-July 3

NASN Annual Conference, Washington DC, <http://www.nasn.org>

August 3

New School Nurse Orientation, The University of Iowa College of Nursing and Iowa School Nurse Organization co-sponsored, Methodist Hospital, Des Moines. More information including content agenda and registration will be sent out via the school nurse mailing list and posted to web pages when ready <http://www.isno.org>

August 10

Iowa School Nurse Back to School Connect Pro Meeting, 10-11:30 am, <http://iowaec.na4.acrobat.com/r85586632/>

October 12-15

ASHA Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, <http://www.ashaweb.org>

October 13-14

University of Iowa School Nurse Conference, West Des Moines

Resources

hawk-i (Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa) is the free or low-cost health care coverage for eligible kids. Current qualifying income ranges and more at <http://www.hawk-i.org>

Healthy Child Care Iowa-Forms

Asthma Action Plan, Asthma Care Brochure, and Child Care Weather Watch Poster <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/products.asp>

Iowa Medication Administration Course

The medication administration basic course is available to Iowa school employees. **Access the course at www.aea11.k12.ia.us and enter the district code for the AEA professional development system.** The course is for school personnel to whom authorized health practitioners have delegated the administration of medication at school and in school activities. The *Medication Administration in Iowa Schools* is an online education course designed to partially meet laws and assist schools to provide student medication administration safely and effectively. The course contains basic medication administration step-by-step procedures. After successful completion of the seventeen units with a 100% score, the person prints a certificate. Then the person takes the certificate to the school nurse to complete the skills demonstration and successfully complete the certification. For questions, contact your AEA or Heartland Professional Development, 1-800-255-0405, Ext. 14701.

Iowa School Nurse Mailing List

The Iowa School Nurse (iowasn) Mailing List is a communication tool for Iowa School Nurses. The mailing list is the Department of Education link with school nurses allowing the Department and Nurses to communicate via email messages. Iowa School Nurses can use the mailing list to request information, share news and initiatives, and receive news. School nurses joining the iowasn mailing list will add their email address to the online school nurse mailing list and can send messages to all members at any time. Posted messages automatically go to everyone on the list, over 500 school nurses.

To join the mailing list, send a blank email to: Join-iowasn@lists.ed.iowa.gov

To cancel the mailing list, send a blank email to: leave-iowasn@lists.ed.iowa.gov

To send a message to other school nurses on the list, type title in subject, message in the body, and send to: iowasn@lists.ed.iowa.gov

No other commands are necessary and joining is free.

Note: When sending a message please include your school, address, phone number, and a resource you found for your question/comment. List members request the person who asks a question summarize responses then post the summary on the list.

Members are requested not to post requests for health plans. When you send a message remember there are over 620 individuals on the list. Post only information you would like to see on the first page of the Des Moines Register or your local newspaper.

Summer Safety Tips Part I and II from the American Academy of Pediatrics

<http://www.healthychildren.org/English/news/Pages/Summer-Safety-Tips-Part-I.aspx>

<http://www.healthychildren.org/English/news/pages/Summer-Safety-Tips-Part-I.aspx>

Example: Pool Safety

- Pools need a fence, at least four-feet high on all four sides with no openings or protrusions to get over, under, or through.
- Pool gates open out from the pool, self-close, and self-latch at a height that can't be reached.
- If the house serves as the fourth side of a fence surrounding a pool, install an alarm on the exit door to the yard and the pool.
- Never leave children alone in or near the pool or spa, even for a moment.
- Keep rescue equipment (a shepherd's hook, a long pole with a hook on the end, and life preserver made of fiberglass or other materials that do not conduct electricity) and a portable telephone near the pool.
- Avoid inflatable swimming aids. They are not a substitute for approved life vests and can give a false sense of security.
- Children age 4 and older should be taught to swim. Children may start swimming lessons before age 4 if developmentally ready, but swim programs should never be seen as drown proofing at any age.
- Whenever infants or toddlers are in or around water, an adult should be within arm's length, providing touch supervision.
- Avoid Entrapment: Pool or spa suction drains can trap a person underwater. Do not use if there are broken or missing drain covers. Know if the pool or spa drains are compliant with the Pool and Spa Safety Act.
- Large inflatable above-ground pools are popular for backyard use. Children may fall in if they lean against the soft side of an inflatable pool. Although such pools are often exempt from local pool fencing requirements, it is essential that they be surrounded by an appropriate fence just as a permanent pool would be so that children cannot gain unsupervised access.

Example: Open water swimming

- Never swim alone. Even good swimmers need buddies!
- A lifeguard (or an adult who knows water rescue) needs to be watching children in or near the water. Younger children should be closely supervised while in or near the water keeping no more than an arm's length away.
- Make sure to never dive into water without knowing the water depth and any underwater objects.
- Never swim in canals or any fast moving water.
- Ocean swimming should only be allowed when a lifeguard is on duty.

Websites: Department of Education (DE) <http://www.iowa.gov/educate>

DE School Nurse page http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1729&Itemid=2524

Department of Public Health (IDPH) <http://www.idph.state.ia.us>

Department of Human Services (DHS) <http://www.dhs.state.ia.us>

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